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<u>International BoatBuilders Exposition and Conference at the Kentucky</u> <u>Exposition Center Generates \$7 Million of Economic Impact</u>

LOUISVILLE, KY (September 17, 2013) – Summer may be over, but the boats are docking in Louisville Tuesday, Sept. 17 – Thursday, Sept. 19 for the International BoatBuilders Exposition and Conference. Expected to generate more than \$7 million of economic impact to the city and state, the conference attracts more than 5,000 marine industry professionals, including boat builders, designers, repairers, surveyors, boatyard operators, distributors and wholesalers to attend the annual three-day conference.

The industry-only event features workshops, networking opportunities and a trade show. Seminars cover marine industry topics about technology, boat design and marketing. Many companies will also unveil the latest products and innovations during the conference. University of Louisville men's basketball coach Rick Pitino will kick off the conference Tuesday as the keynote speaker at the Industry Breakfast and Innovation Awards Presentation.

The annual conference is the marine industry's largest technical trade show event. Owned and produced by International BoatBuilder magazine and the National Marine Manufacturers Association, the event alternates between Louisville and Tampa each year. For more information, visit http://www.ibexshow.com/index.php.

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One of the top 10 largest public facilities of its kind in the United States, the Kentucky Exposition Center features 1.2 million square feet of indoor space including Freedom Hall, an indoor arena which seats over 19,000 people. The facility's class "A" exhibit space totals 425,700 square feet and accommodates an amazing spectrum of events year round. The expo center is the permanent home for the Kentucky State Fair, the National Farm Machinery Show, and the North American International Livestock Exposition. Conveniently located adjacent to the Louisville International Airport and near the junction of three major interstates, the Kentucky Exposition Center is easily accessible and just five minutes south of downtown Louisville. Parking at the Kentucky Exposition Center is \$8 per vehicle. For more information, go online to www.kyexpo.org.